These stupas are similar on plan to those found at Sarnath, Varanasi (U.P.), but differ in detail.

World Heritage site

3. SHRI RUDRA NARAYANA PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhubaneswar is proposed to be declared a World Heritage City;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the ASI to the UNESCO for award of such status;

(c) whether the ASI has also recommended other sites for WHS status in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Deterioration of Konark Temple

4. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the structure of Konark Temple and its magnificent celestial chariot and stone sculpture is fast turning into a colossal ruin;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 25 per cent of its sculptural embellishment etched on inert stones, have been defaced by erosion and lost forever;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for neglecting maintenance of the temple; and